Claims

1. A peptide of the amino acid sequence of formula (I)

Z^1-X^1-X^2-X^3-X^4-X^5-Gly-X^7-X^8-X^9- Z^2-Y^1 (I)

or formula (II)

Z^1-X^1-Tyr-X^3(-Ala or Ser)-Asp-Gly-X^7-(Tyr or Phe)-Asp- Z^2-Y^1 (II)

wherein

X^1 is an amino acid selected from the group Ser, His, Thr, Ala, Gln, Phe, Gly and Ile

X^2 is an amino acid selected from the group Tyr, Arg and Phe

X^3 is an amino acid selected from the group Tyr, Ser, Asn, Glu, Asp and Thr

X^4 is an amino acid selected from the group Ser, Ala, Gly, Asp and Phe

X^5 is an amino acid selected from the group Asp and Ser,

X^7 is an amino acid selected from the group Thr, Val, Met, Ser, Trp, Tyr, Leu and Ala

X^8 is an amino acid selected from the group Tyr,Phe and Leu

X^9 is an amino acid selected from the group Asp, Ser and Glu

Z^1 represent an amino acid residue capable of forming a disulphide bond, preferably a cysteine or a homocysteine residue, or a residue capable of forming a thioether preferably the residue is Q-C(=O) wherein Q represents $-(CH_2)n$ or $-(CH_2)_n$-C_6H_4 where n represents a positive integer 1 to 10 or is absent and

Z^2 represent an amino acid residue capable of forming a disulphide bond, preferably a cysteine or a homocysteine residue or is absent

Y^1 represents 1-10 amino acids or is absent

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. A peptide according to claim 1 of the amino acid sequence

Cys-Ser-Tyr-Tyr-Ser-Asp-Gly-Val-Tyr-Asp-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 1),

Cys-His-Tyr-Ser-Ser-Asp-Gly-Thr-Tyr-Asp-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 2),

Cys-Thr-Tyr-Asn-Gly-Asp-Gly-Ser-Phe-Asp-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 3),

Cys-Ala-Tyr-Glu-Ala-Asp-Gly-Trp-Phe-Asp-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 4),

Cys-Ser-Tyr-Ser-Ala-Asp-Gly-Thr-Leu-Asp-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 5),

Cys-Gln-Tyr-Asp-Ser-Ser-Gly-Met-Tyr-Asp-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 6),

Cys-Phe-Phe-Asp-Ser-Ser-Gly-Tyr-Phe-Asp-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 7),

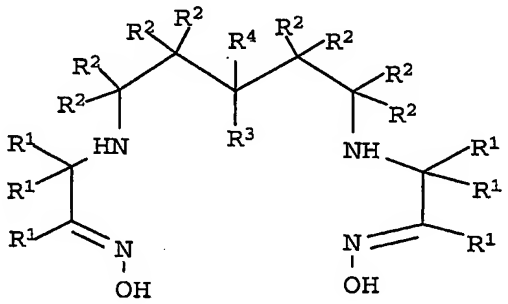
Cys-Thr-Tyr-Ser-Ala-Asp-Gly-Leu-Tyr-Asp-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 8),

Cys-His-Phe-Asp-Gly-Asp-Gly-Ser-Tyr-Asp-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 9),

Cys-Thr-Tyr-Glu-Pro-Ser-Gly-Met-Tyr-Asp-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 10),
Cys-Gln-Tyr-Thr-Ala-Asp-Gly-Ala-Phe-Asp-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 11),
Cys-Ile-Tyr-Glu-Ser-Asp-Gly-Met-Phe-Ser-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 12),
Cys-Gly-Arg-Ser-Asp-Gly-Thr-Trp-Tyr-Glu-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 13) or
Cys-Ser-Tyr-Tyr-Ala-Asp-Gly-Met-Tyr-Ser-Cys, (SEQ ID NO 14).

3. A targetable diagnostic and/ or therapeutically active agent of formula (III)
V-L-Z Formula (III)
wherein the vector V is a peptide according to claim 1- 2
L represents a bond, a spacer or a linker and
Z represents an antineoplastic agent, a reporter moiety or a group that optionally can carry an imaging moiety M.

4. An agent as claimed in claim 3 where Z is a chelating agent of Formula IV



(IV)

where:
each R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 is independently an R group;
each R group is independently H or C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{3-10} alkylaryl, C_{2-10} alkoxyalkyl, C_{1-10} hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-10} alkylamine, C_{1-10} fluoroalkyl, or 2 or more R groups, together with the atoms to which they are attached form a carbocyclic, heterocyclic, saturated or unsaturated ring.

5. An agent as claimed in any of the previous claims 3 to 4 wherein Z comprises a reporter moiety, M wherein the reporter moiety M comprises metal radionuclides,

paramagnetic metal ions, fluorescent metal ions, heavy metal ions or cluster ions.

6. An agent as claimed in claim 5 wherein the reporter moiety M comprises ^{90}Y, ^{99m}Tc, ^{111}In, ^{47}Sc, ^{67}Ga, ^{51}Cr, ^{177m}Sn, ^{67}Cu, ^{167}Tm, ^{97}Ru, ^{188}Re, ^{177}Lu, ^{199}Au, ^{203}Pb, ^{141}Ce or ^{18}F.

7. An agent as claimed in claims 3 to 6 where each reporter (Z) can carry a multiplicity of vectors V.

8. An agent as claimed in claim 3 where the antineoplastic agent Z represent cyclophosphamide, chloroambucil, busulphan, methotrexate, cytarabine, fluorouracil, vinblastine, paclitaxel, doxorubicin, daunorubicin, etoposide, teniposide, cisplatin, amsacrine or docetaxel.

9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound of general Formula (III) or a salt thereof, together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvants, excipients or diluents for use in enhancing image contrast in *in vivo* imaging or for treatment of a disease.

10. A method of generating enhanced images of a human or animal body previously administered with a contrast agent composition comprising a compound as claimed in claims 3 to 7, which method comprises generating an image of at least part of said body.